



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE

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BARLEY, COTTON AND SOYBEAN ACREAGES UP

According to a survey conducted in early June by the USDA/NASS Virginia Field Office, Virginia's farmers will have increased land planted to Barley by 23,000 acres in 2010. Cotton and soybeans acreages were up 9 percent and 2 percent, respectively. And both peanut and hay acreage increased as well.

Virginia corn producers reported that planting was completed at 460,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from last year. Corn producers expect to harvest 320,000 acres for grain in 2010, which is 10,000 fewer acres when compared to 2009.

Soybean producers in Virginia planted 590,000 acres, up 2% from last year. As of June 28, 86 percent of Virginia's soybean crop was planted with the majority of the crop in fair to good condition.

Virginia farmers planted 70,000 acres of cotton this year, a 6,000 acreage increase from the previous year. As of June 28, 14 percent of Virginia's cotton was squaring, and 4 percent was setting bolls, with the majority of cotton in good condition.

Flue-cured tobacco acreage is down 2,500 to 15,000 acres when compared to 2009. Burley producers plan to harvest 1,700 acres, down 300 acres from a year ago. Seven hundred acres are dedicated to fire-cured tobacco, an increase of 50 acres from 2009.

Peanut growers in the Commonwealth planted 17,000 acres, showing a significant rebound from 2009. Producers expect to harvest 17,000 acres of peanuts in 2010, up 5,000 acres from 2009.

Barley seeded acreage increased 34 percent from last year and is estimated at 90,000 acres. Barley producers anticipate harvesting 60,000 acres for grain, which is up 17,000 acres from last year. Twelve thousand acres of oats were planted in Virginia, remaining steady from last year. Slightly more than 33 percent of the planted oats will be harvested for grain.

Virginia's all hay increased by 9% from last year at 1,290,000 acres. Other hay acreage increased to 1,200,000 acres. Alfalfa hay will be made on 90,000 acres, remaining steady from 2009.

Winter wheat acres seeded last fall for this season were 200,000 acres, which is a 20 percent decrease from 2009. Wheat producers are expecting to harvest 180,000 acres for grain, which is 30,000 acres less than a year ago.

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**Corn Planted Acreage Up 2 Percent from 2009
Soybean Acreage Up 2 Percent
All Wheat Acreage Down 8 Percent
All Cotton Acreage Up 19 Percent**

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2010 is estimated at 87.9 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. The largest increases in planted acreage compared to last year are reported in Illinois and Kansas, both up 600,000 acres from 2009. Other notable increases were shown in Indiana, up 400,000 acres; Missouri, up 300,000 acres; and Ohio, up 250,000 acres. The largest decrease in planted acreage is reported in Iowa, down 400,000 acres, while both Nebraska and South Dakota are down 350,000 acres from the previous year.

Soybean planted area for 2010 is estimated at a record high 78.9 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Area for harvest, at 78.0 million acres, is also up 2 percent from 2009, and will be the largest harvested area on record, if realized. Compared with last year, planted acreage increased by 300,000 acres or more in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, and Nebraska. The States with the largest declines compared with last year are Arkansas, down 270,000 acres, and North Carolina, down 250,000 acres. Record high planted acreage is estimated in Kansas, Nebraska, New York, and Pennsylvania, and planted area will tie the previous record high in Minnesota and Oklahoma.

All wheat planted area is estimated at 54.3 million acres, down 8 percent from 2009. This is the lowest United States total since 1971. The 2010 winter wheat planted area, at 37.7 million acres, is 13 percent below last year. Of this total, about 28.5 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 5.8 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.4 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2010 is estimated at 13.9 million acres, up 5 percent from 2009. Of this total, about 13.3 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Durum planted area for 2010 is estimated at 2.68 million acres, up 5 percent from the previous year. Growers in North Dakota planted more wheat than Kansas for only the fourth time on record.

All Cotton plantings for 2010 are estimated at 10.9 million acres, 19 percent above last year. Upland planted area is estimated at 10.7 million acres, up 19 percent from 2009. Increased planted acres are expected in all States except Louisiana, where acres are unchanged from last year's record low. In Alabama, California, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, planted acreage increased over 30 percent with California experiencing the largest percentage gain with a 76 percent increase. American-Pima cotton growers planted 209,000 acres, up 48 percent from 2009.

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